

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

SHIONOYA *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/533,875

371 (c) Date: May 5, 2005

**For: Viewing Management Method of
Specified Content Recorded on
Information Recording Medium**

Confirmation No.: 8000

Art Unit: 3621

Examiner: Mamon A Obeid

Atty. Docket: 1089.0560000/MAC/JHH

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 1-3 and 5-10 in the Notice of Allowance dated January 26, 2010.

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Applicants note the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance presented on pages 4-5, paragraphs 11 and 12 of the Notice of Allowance. The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance indicates claims 1-3 and 5-10 are allowable because Colvin (USPN 6,799,277), Braitberg (USPN 6,631,359), and Umeda (USPN 5,581,547) do not teach the claimed invention. However, when the Examiner recites the claimed invention, he only recited the features of independent claim 1 and does not include a recitation of independent claims 3 and 8.

It is our understanding that independent claim 1, and claim 2 which depends therefrom, are allowable because Colvin, Braitberg, and Umeda do not teach a viewing management method for managing the viewing of media content recorded on an information recording medium readable with a prescribed reproduction device, said method comprising the following steps: said prescribed reproduction device presenting an acquisition code prerecorded on said information recording medium to a viewer desiring to view a viewing management target media content; said prescribed reproduction device receiving a password acquired by the viewer from a server computer

based on the acquisition code; and said prescribed reproduction device starting reproduction of said viewing management target media content via an authentication process based on the password, wherein a password management table associating said password with said acquisition code is prerecorded on said information recording medium, and the step of presenting the acquisition code occurs each time a media content reproduction request is received from the viewer and includes: said prescribed reproduction device generating a random number based on a prescribed random function; and said prescribed reproduction device selecting and presenting an acquisition code corresponding to the generated random number from the password management table.

It is also our understanding that independent claim 3, and claims 5-7 and 9 which depend therefrom, are allowable because Colvin, Braitberg, and Umeda do not teach a viewing management method for managing the viewing of media content recorded on an information recording medium readable with a prescribed reproduction device, comprising the following steps: said prescribed reproduction device starting to read said information recording medium; said prescribed reproduction device presenting a prescribed acquisition code to a viewer, and urging the viewer to input a prescribed password; a prescribed server computer accessed by an information terminal device of said viewer urging the viewer to input the prescribed acquisition code; said prescribed server computer presenting a password corresponding to said prescribed acquisition code to said viewer upon receiving said prescribed acquisition code from the information terminal device of said viewer; said prescribed reproduction device performing, upon receiving a prescribed password from said viewer, authentication based on the prescribed password; and said prescribed reproduction device starting reproduction of the media content recorded on said information recording medium when it judges that the prescribed password is valid as a result of said authentication, wherein a password management table associating said password with said acquisition code is recorded on said information recording medium, and said prescribed reproduction device presents an acquisition code corresponding to a random number generated according to a prescribed random function.

It is also our understanding that independent claim 8, and claim 10 which depends therefrom, are allowable because Colvin, Braitberg, and Umeda do not teach a

system for reading an information recording medium with a prescribed reproduction device, the system comprising: a prescribed reproduction device; and an information recording medium having recorded thereon a viewing management target media content, a prescribed password management table and prescribed control information, wherein in said prescribed password management table, a prescribed password is associated with a prescribed acquisition code, and wherein said prescribed control information contains a control program for said prescribed reproduction device to be capable of performing a plurality of functions, the functions comprising: said prescribed reproduction device presenting a prescribed acquisition code corresponding to a random number generated according to a prescribed random function to said viewer and urging said viewer to input a prescribed password associated with said presented prescribed acquisition code in said prescribed password management table, said prescribed reproduction device performing authentication of said input prescribed password when said viewer inputs said prescribed password, and said prescribed reproduction device reproducing said viewing management target media content according to the result of said authentication.

Applicants reserve the right to demonstrate claims 1-3 and 5-10 are allowable over the art made of record for further reasons related to any of their recited features. Applicants further contend that reservation of this right does not give rise to any implication regarding whether the Applicants agree with or acquiesces in the reasoning provided by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Apr. 19, 2010

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